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Approved For Release 2001/04/23 : CIA-RDP78-03088A000100010014-7

10 APR 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, FE/ [REDACTED]  
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ATTENTION: [REDACTED] -- EYES ONLY

SUBJECT: Comments on Vietnam Orientation No. 14

1. Pursuant to your request, the following are some comments on Vietnam Orientation No. 14, presented 20 - 24 March 1967.

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2. My overall reaction, which I think was shared by all [REDACTED] students, was that the VO is very worthwhile. It is certainly a must for all Agency personnel newly assigned to Vietnam Station, except possibly for those who will be taking the new "SVNOC" being prepared by [REDACTED]. The latter group will very likely need only the administrative and general housekeeping orientation, keyed to the group's prospective assignment to the provinces.

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3. A few changes might make the course more effective.

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a. [REDACTED] (OCI) talk on "The Military Arm of Counterinsurgency" was poorly done, and in part superfluous. The presentations of Messrs. Allen (O/SAVA) and [REDACTED], with minor adjustments and complemented by the Westmoreland film, cover the subject adequately. Also, the more than ample bibliography suggests reading for those who want to explore the subject further.

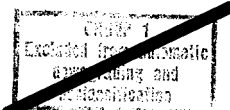
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b. [REDACTED] "The Official American Community in Saigon" was all right as far as he went, but more useful would be a presentation describing:

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[REDACTED]

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(2) The "Nation-Building Community" -- [REDACTED]  
AID programs, etc., and GVN counterparts.

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(3) U.S. and GVN organization and relationships  
for conduct of the fighting war -- MACV, the JGS, the  
Corps structure, the U.S. and Free World Forces, etc.,  
to include Station relationships and contacts.

(4) The operation of the Country Team/Mission  
Council.

This would provide a more complete and suitable framework for  
your talk on the role, objectives, overall organization and status  
of the Vietnam Station.

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c. Unfortunately, [REDACTED] just is not a  
good lecturer or briefer. But rather than get into a detailed ex-  
position of Vietnam reporting, I recommend that the essentials  
be incorporated into [REDACTED] excellent discussion of "The  
Intelligence Division," and that he be given more time on the air  
for this.

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4. As to the others, [REDACTED] were "no-shows," --  
hence, no comment. The presentations of the following were all  
well received, despite a rather jumbled scheduling caused by their  
availability: [REDACTED] Mr. Allen, [REDACTED] (a perennial favorite,  
'tho' some of his suggestions betray some gaps in his knowledge of  
the materials of which ladies' undergarments are made and what  
happens to them if ironed), [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] (after he got his film working), the panel on living conditions,

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didn't cotton to [REDACTED] rather heavy over-sell. The terminal  
panel fell flat -- no questions.

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25X1A 5. Since FE/[REDACTED] has only a March 1966 overall Mission  
25X1A post report (fine for State, AID and JUSPAO), and since the other  
FE/[REDACTED] briefing materials are -- it seems -- in disorganized  
shape and available in one copy only, I'd urge that a strenuous effort  
be made to put together at once a loose-leaf, easily up-date-able  
Vietnam Station Supplement to the post report. Most especially it  
should contain specific guidance as to what CIA personnel, male  
and female, should bring with or have shipped in unaccompanied  
baggage, in terms of clothing; household furnishings, equipment,  
linen, silver, dishes, etc., if any; radios, TV, hi-fi or phono-  
graphs and adaptors or voltage regulators, etc.; sports and recrea-  
tional gear; average costs per month at various grade levels in  
Saigon; a written statement of leave policies, and the various dif-  
ferentials and allowances. Too much of this is left to oral diffusion  
and inaccurately quoted hearsay and interpretation. As a further  
25X1A observation, the FE/[REDACTED] folks should be cognizant of what  
CPB tells the traveller, and not take it for granted that the traveller  
will get the right answers, or force him to wait for the answers until  
he's ready to process out!

25X1A9a The films, portfolio and handouts furnished by or through  
[REDACTED] were all pertinent and well-received.

[REDACTED] 25X1A9a

25X1A8a [REDACTED]

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